





## HAWAI'I INVASIVE SPECIES COUNCIL

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TOURISM

DAVID RODRIGUEZ
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

## **RESOLUTION 13-2**

SUPPORTING THE REAUTHORIZATION OF THE BROWN TREE SNAKE CONTROL AND ERADICATION ACT OF 2004

WHEREAS, the brown tree snake (*Boiga irregularis*) is an invasive species outside of its native range and has severely impacted the native bird populations and quality of life on Guam; and

WHEREAS, the introduction of the brown tree snake to Hawaii has the potential to devastate Hawaii's native bird populations; and

WHEREAS, the economic impact of the introduction of brown tree snake to Hawaii related to power outages, medical costs, and impacts to tourism is estimated to be as much as \$2,140,000,000 annually<sup>1</sup>; and

WHEREAS, the report from the House Committee on Resources accompanying the federal Brown Tree Snake Control and Eradication Act of 2004<sup>2</sup> states that the brown tree snake poses a direct, significant, and growing threat of dispersal to other areas outside its historic range, including the State of Hawaii and the mainland United States; and

WHEREAS, the Brown Tree Snake Control and Eradication Act of 2004<sup>3</sup> authorized the establishment and sustained funding for vertebrate pest management in Hawaii and U.S. Pacific territories and positions by the federal Animal Plant and Health Inspection Service, Wildlife Services, Operations Program State Office, as well as the provision of sustained research funding for the Fort Collins Science Center of the U.S. Geological Survey related to the brown tree snake; and

WHEREAS, the Brown Tree Snake Control and Eradication Act of 2004<sup>4</sup> appropriated funds for relevant detection, control and research activities through the federal Animal and Plant Health

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Shwiff, S. A.; Gebhardt, K.; Kirkpatrick, K. N.; Shwiff, S. S. 2010. Potential economic damage from introduction of brown tree snakes, *Boiga irregularis* (Reptilia: Colubridae), to the Islands of Hawaii. Pacific Science, vol. 64, no. 1:1-10.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> H Rep. 108-687, at 1-2 (2004)

<sup>3 7</sup> USC §§ 8501-8507

<sup>4 7</sup> USC §§ 8501-8507

Inspection Service, the U.S. Office of Insular Affairs, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and the U.S. Geological Survey from 2006 through 2010; and

WHEREAS, the Hawaii Invasive Species Council shall coordinate and promote the State of Hawaii's position with respect to federal issues<sup>5</sup>; now, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED that the Hawaii Invasive Species Council supports the reauthorization of the Brown Tree Snake Act of 2004, including new appropriations for funding related to brown tree snake coordination, detection, control, and research; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the Governor of Hawaii, delegates from Hawaii to the U.S. Congress, the U.S. Secretary of Agriculture, the U.S. Secretary of Defense, the U.S. Secretary of the Interior, the U.S. Secretary of Transportation, the chairperson of the Hawaii Board of Agriculture, and the chairperson of the Hawaii Board of Land and Natural Resources.

Adopted by the Hawaii Invasive Species Council on the following date: June 4, 2013

William J. Aila, Jr., Dept. of Land & Natural

Resources

Gary Gill, Dept. of Health

Jesse Souki, Office of Planning, Dept of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism Marja Gallo, Ph.D., University of Hawaii

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> HRS 194-2 (a) (5)